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THE HAWAIIAN REVOLUTION.

A revolution has taken place in Hawaii. The monarchical government of Queen Liliuokalani has been overthrown and a provisional government established. The cause of the revolution is said to be the nature of the constitution proposed by the Queen, establishing practically an absolute monarchy and taking away the elective franchise from most of the foreign population. The provisional government, which was established without bloodshed, has been recognized by United States Minister Stevens, and Commissioners have arrived in this country, sent by the new government, asking that the islands be annexed to the United States. The question raised by these events is a grave and important one, and the people, the press, and the government of this country ought to proceed with due deliberation and prudence. If the people of Hawaii, as a whole, are in favor of annexation, they have a perfect right to ask for it. If there are no complications rendering it unjust to do so, and it is to our interest and theirs to annex them, then we ought to accede to their request. But to determine all this requires time, especially as there is no cable communication with the island. The deposed Queen has issued a protest against the actions of the revolutionists and the provisional government, and yields to the superior force of the United States, whose minister has supported the new government and landed troops on the island. She expects that when the facts are made known to our government it will reinstate her.

England looks upon the revolution as a *coup d'état* of the United States in order to get possession of the islands, and hence protests through her minister at Washington against annexation. She has long been trying to extend her influence in Hawaii, and her well known colonial policy gives proof that she would not have hesitated to annex the islands herself if opportunity had offered. It is to be sincerely hoped that the United States will not enter upon a colonial policy as full of shameful injustice to native races as much of England's has been. Better let her have all the glory of it herself than try to head her off at her own game. The Commissioners have not yet had an interview with the authorities at Washington. President Harrison has decided to proceed cautiously in the matter, and is understood to be opposed to annexation. He wishes to know the powers of the Commissioners and the real state of things in Hawaii. It is his judgment that no other power must be allowed to gain supremacy there, and that our previous intimate relations with the islands must be continued. Senator Chandler has introduced into the Senate (January 30th) a bill providing for annexation. Sentiment at Washington, as throughout the country, is much divided on the subject. Many Senators and Representatives look upon the action of Minister Stevens and the commander of the Boston as entirely un-

warranted and intended to force annexation. A majority of both houses are said to be opposed to annexation. Let justice and wise counsels rule, and we have little doubt that they will, from the spirit which prevails at Washington.

THE UNIVERSAL PEACE PETITION.

It is not likely now that any general effort will be made by the Peace Societies in this country to circulate for signatures the form of universal peace petition prepared by the Peace Bureau under the instructions of the Berne Congress. The American Peace Society has had the matter under consideration, and has not yet been able to see that it would be advisable at the present time to try to circulate the petition. Their reason for not doing it is that the United States Government has already done, or offered to do, just what this petition is designed to induce governments to do, namely, to agree to settle all their difficulties by arbitration, and then do away with standing armies.

Our government has no standing army worth mentioning, and has invited, more than two years ago, all the civilized nations to form with us permanent treaties of arbitration. If a petition should be gotten up in this country at all, it ought to be in the form of a protest against the expensive and useless increase of our navy. In this respect our government is contradicting its own professed policy and seriously impairing its influence with other nations.

The appeal prepared by the Peace Bureau and given below is admirably suited to the condition of things in Europe, and in some of the countries active measures are being taken to prepare and circulate petitions. This is especially true of Italy, where the military burdens are so ruinously heavy. Here is the appeal:

Europe is groaning under the weight of her armaments—her resources are exhausted and spent in mere waste. She is prevented from reforming her social institutions. Her industries are reduced to a lower level by unproductive expenditure. The state of uncertainty in which men are living produces crises which recur at ever shortening intervals.

This involves, for States as well as for private persons, ruin at no distant date; and at the same time is the terror of families, who are threatened with the loss of their dear ones in the horrible slaughter which would accompany a European conflagration.

The moment is critical! To-day everything may be preserved: to-morrow all might be lost, if we should put off giving the public conscience an opportunity of uttering a cry of alarm loud enough to drown the sound of war-like preparations.

Therefore let us all set to work:

Old men, who know by experience that war provokes war;

Young men, who refuse to serve as food for powder;